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Bangalore Mirror

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State Information Commission lagging behind in utilising digital facilities to enable petitioners seeking justice to file appeals

DON'T TECH IT LIGHTLY

Supreme Court on Oct 9 directed to ensure e-filing of complaints

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As service providers, government departments, judicial, and quasi judicial bodies are vying to embrace digital transformation, the State Information Commission is lagging behind other departments to utilise digital facilities to enable the petitioners seeking justice to file appeals.

The Supreme Court, on October 9, while hearing a writ petition by Kishan Chand Jain, directed all State Information Commissions to ensure that e-filing of complaints and appeals are provided in a streamlined manner to every litigant.

Kishan Chand filed the writ petition in the Supreme Court under the Article 32 of the Constitution seeking directions for the better functioning of State Information Commissions under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

The petitioner stated that the State Information Commissions, along with Central Information Commission,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

> **"It is a good direction and it will help applicants and staff working at State Information Commissions**
>
> — Veeresh BH, Mahiti Hakku Adhyayana Kendra

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3 THINGS TO DO

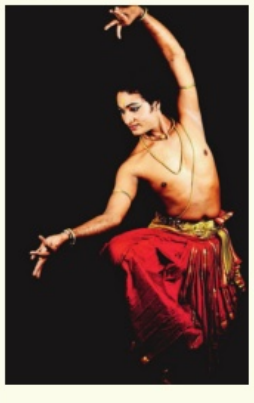
01 Dasara habba

Here's a chance for Malleswaram residents to participate in the Golu contest, conducted by MSI. You can keep any theme of your choice, and entries will be shortlisted; only selected houses will be visited for judging. For registration, you can fill out the Google form: https://forms.gle/z9bpQReieyCAFqYW9. Join the WhatsApp group Golu/Gombe Competition 2023 using the link https://chat.whatsapp.com/CXp9NYR3eOq1zPvSg2Ik8T. You can post up to three videos of your Golu with commentary explaining the concept behind them.
Contact: 9844086982
When: contest until October 20

02 Rich in art

Grab the chance to attend the Indian artefacts exhibition-cum-sale, where you can explore a variety of Indian traditional textures, rich art and crafts, and artefacts made by native artisans. The event aims to encourage rural artists. The variety of artefacts ranges from tribal to plains, from the Himalayas to coastal areas.
Where: Chitrakala Parishath
When: until October 22

03 Navaratri special



Don't miss the chance to watch a unique performance by Gururaju on Durga/Shakti. The show is choreographed by Guru Vyjayanthi Kashi as part of the Navratri festival. Also, Smt Janani Murali will be presenting Bharatanatyam on Devi.
Where: MEDAI, Koramangala
When: October 21; 6 pm

School data: Link is broken

Education department points out discrepancies between students' Aadhaar card numbers and school data; mandates Aadhaar details during admission

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Though the education department is making the Aadhaar number mandatory for admissions, the officials are now stuck with a different problem. Many students who have submitted their Aadhaar card numbers have different numbers in their Aadhaar card and school data. Surprisingly, the maximum differences in names of Aadhaar cards vis-a-vis school data are found in Bengaluru South, where the education department is currently processing 48 lakh names. Officials say that the Aadhaar link will help in transferring benefits to the students.

"For example, students in government schools are provided with uniforms, socks, milk, etc. If we have Aadhaar data, then we can provide the stuff to the real beneficiaries and avoid duplication. We are taking prior approval from parents on Aadhaar linkage," said an official.

While there has been resistance to making Aadhaar cards mandatory for students, the education department has claimed that it has been helping them weed out duplication. The education department officials have said that as they have been vigorously pushing for Aadhaar linkage, they have been able to delete 25,000 students' data that was duplicated.

A senior official said, "We are currently in the process of Aadhaar linkage, which is helping us to eliminate duplication and provide facilities to students. The Aadhaar linkage will definitely benefit the student community."

Aadhaar link will help in transferring benefits to the students

> **"We are currently in the process of Aadhaar linkage, which is helping us to eliminate duplication and provide facilities to students**
> – a senior official

An education department official said, "Thanks to the linkage, we have identified duplication of data in the Student Achievement Tracking System. This was possible as we made it mandatory to produce Aadhaar details during admissions. There have been examples where a section of students had shifted from one school to another, yet their data was present in both schools. Now, thanks to Aadhaar, we have been able to eliminate the duplication."

According to the data, 1.06 crore students are currently studying from grade one to 10 in schools spread across 35 education districts in the state. Out of the 1.06 crore, 88 lakh students (roughly 60.38 per cent) have completed their Aadhaar linkage. An official said, "We are finding issues with the entry of names. For example, there was 100 per cent compliance with names entered in the school system as well as in the Aadhaar card for 53 lakh students. However, for another nine lakh students, the names entered in the school system as well as Aadhaar cards are not matching. The reason is that the parents have added surnames, changed the spellings, or modified the names. Now, we are currently trying to rectify these anomalies."

Now, the education department says that it is focusing on the remaining 17 lakh students who have yet to link their Aadhaar cards. "We have sternly told the parents that admission to the subsequent classes won't be easier if they are not linking Aadhaar cards. If such parents insist on changing schools, then we will not provide transfer certificates as well. These measures seem to be working, as many are now coming forward for Aadhaar linkage," added another official.

However, parents say that insisting on an Aadhaar card is not feasible. "I don't think the pressure tactics of officials to make Aadhaar will work. If we are apprised of the benefits of Aadhaar linkage, then every parent would be willing to get one. However, without proper counselling, making Aadhaar may not really work," a parent said anonymously.

Surgery done, kids with cleft palate can smile again

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Around 76 underprivileged children who were suffering from cleft palates were given free treatment. A total of 140 children underwent comprehensive medical evaluations, with over 76 individuals receiving life-changing surgeries addressing critical healthcare aspects, including speech, dental health, psychosocial well-being, surgery, anaesthesia, and paediatric assessments.

Dr VK Pradeep Kumar, Chairman of Kindorama Healthcare Pvt Ltd, said, "Through this surgical camp, 76 patients received surgeries to address their cleft conditions. This programme is an ongoing effort, persisting until all patients have received the necessary surgical care, with the collective mission of restoring the health and dignity of those in need."

The endeavour involved a dedicated multidisciplinary team

The initiative involved a dedicated multidisciplinary team of medical and non-medical volunteers from across India.

Surgeons, anaesthetists, paediatricians, nurses, speech therapists, dentists, and psychosocial care providers joined forces to make a lasting impact on the lives of these children, he informed.

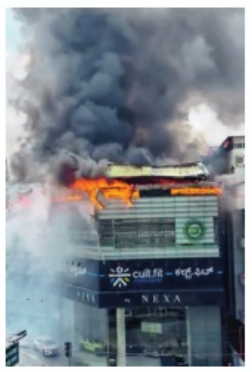
Renjith Krishnan, CEO of Kinder Group, India, added, "This life-changing endeavour involved a dedicated multidisciplinary team of medical and non-medical volunteers."

Dr Krishna Sama Rao (Founder and Trustee, Inga Health Foundation) explained, "Children born with cleft conditions often face societal marginalisation, hindering their access to education and societal inclusion. Kinder Hospitals, Operation Smile, and the Inga Health Foundation remain steadfast in their commitment to reaching children in the farthest corners of Karnataka, offering them the highest quality care and a brighter future. The programme received support from volunteers of Sri Vinayaka College of Nursing, Magadi Road."

Blaze at Koramangala building; man jumps off

A large fire broke out at a multi-storeyed building in Koramangala on Wednesday. The incident was reported from a cafe on the fourth floor of a business building that also houses a car dealership and a gym. There have been two major injuries, of which was one man, who had jumped off the terrace to escape the flames.

Several LPG cylinders had been kept in the Mud Pipe Cafe, where the fire is said to have originated at lunchtime.



To put out the flames, eight fire tenders raced to the scene. The police said that the fire is mostly under control.

"Sounds akin to blasts were heard by those nearby. Eight fire tenders and our top officers had been dispatched to the location. The blaze has been put out. There have been two serious injuries," said a police officer.

Social media users are sharing many videos of the incidents, in which dense smoke can be seen rising from the building itself.

A man is seen jumping from the top of the building in one of the video clips. The man was taken to a local hospital. **BMB**

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Bridge to nowhere

Incomplete Bellandur Kodi Bridge symbolises delayed progress, safety hazards, inconveniencing commuters. One side remains unfinished, posing serious risks

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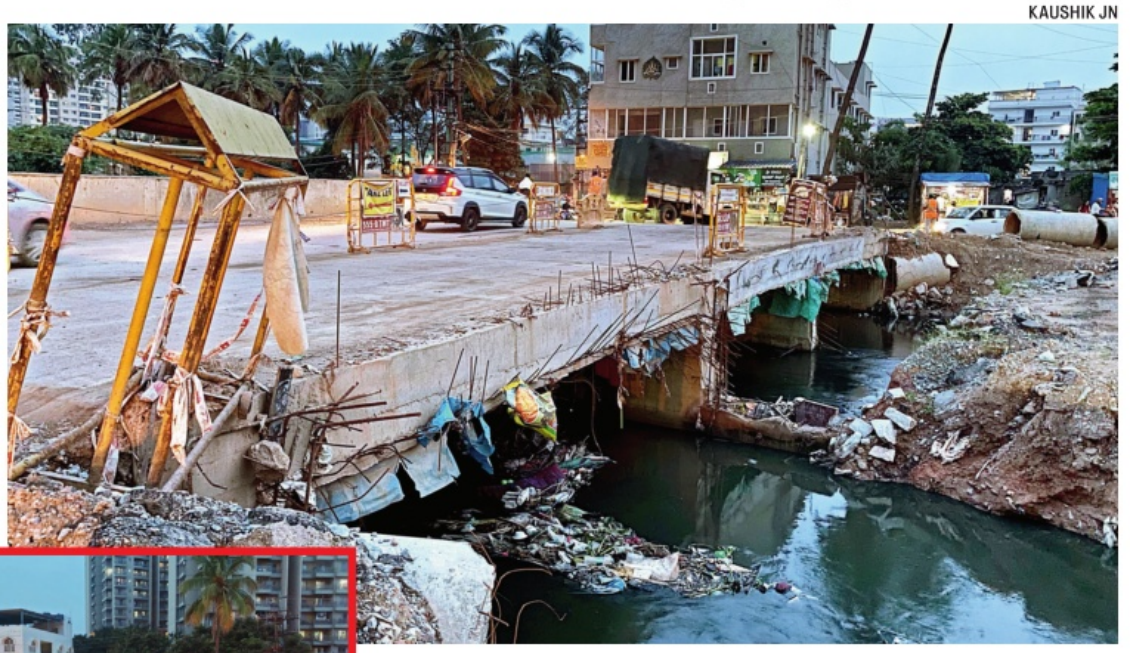

After five months of construction work, one side of the drain adjacent to the bridge remains open, creating a precarious situation

The incomplete Bellandur Kodi Bridge meant to connect Bellandur and Yamalur, has become a symbol of delayed progress and safety hazards. The construction delay has left one side of the bridge incomplete, causing significant inconvenience and serious risks to commuters. Safety concerns persist despite assurances from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) that work will resume and be completed by November.

The incomplete bridge serves as a crucial shortcut for commuters, providing access to the Outer Ring Road (ORR). However, after five months of construction work, one side of the drain adjacent to the bridge remains open, creating a precarious situation. This exposes motorists to the risk of falling into the drain. The absence of streetlights along this stretch exacerbates the dangers, particularly during night-time travel, reducing visibility and increasing the likelihood of accidents.

"The work has not been completed for the new bridge. One side of the bridge is open and poses a safety risk. During the rainy season, the water stagnates on the bridge itself. Officials must properly construct infrastructure. There is no streetlight near the bridge, and there is reduced visibility at night. Adjacent to the bridge is a Masjid, and the followers of the faith come in big numbers," said Roopa, a resident.

Citizens Movement East Bengaluru took to X and said, "One of the Namma Bengalurians met with an unfortunate end in Solang Valley last week as he fell into a 400m gorge. However, Namma Bengalurians are compelled to navigate such death traps daily in Bengaluru, especially in its IT corridors, contributing to our state's and politicians' wealth."

Residents have expressed frustration over civic agencies' recurring neglect of taxpayers' lives and safety. Many believe that infrastructural problems disproportionately affect specific areas of the city, demonstrating a need for equal attention and resources to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Another resident told BM that they suspect that payments are pending from BBMP. "Work has not been completed, and it gets flooded. It got flooded in the recent rains as well. When it rains, the stretch from Kariama Agrahara to HAL gets flooded. Many people coming from Indiranagar, MG road, and Malleshwaram touch ORR through this route. The Iblur-Agara stretch is congested from 7 am onwards. Commuters have to exit and enter ORR through these narrow roads. 90 per cent of CDP roads have not been completed," said Vishnu Prasad of Bellandur Forum.

> **"There was an issue with the contractor's payment, and work was delayed. We have cleared the payment issue, and work will be started soon**
>
> –a senior BBMP official

In July 2023, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar visited the Bellandur Kodi Bridge. The new bridge was being constructed due to flooding last year as the old bridge could not sustain the heavy rain flow. But with the new bridge construction halted, fear arose about flooding again.

BBMP officials say that work will be completed by November. "There was an issue with the contractor's payment, and work was delayed. We have cleared the payment issue, and work will be started soon. The bridge work will be completed by November," said a senior BBMP official.

However, it's still unclear whether BBMP will undertake any immediate measures to address motorists' safety risks until the work is completed.

BBMP backtracks on pourakarmikas' safety

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A file photo of BBMP Pourakarmikas protesting demanding permanent jobs

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Pourakarmikara Sangha has condemned the state government for cancelling Rs 15 crore funds designated for purchasing uniforms and safety equipment meant for pourakarmikas, the civic workers responsible for maintaining the city's cleanliness.

Maitreyi Krishnan from the All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU) said they have written to the Chief Minister about the issue. She also noted that the average lifespan of a pourakarmika is merely 50-55 due to the constant illness they are prone to. "The damage done to the health of the workers is long-term. By transferring the designated funds, the government is putting their life at risk," she said. All waste workers, including contract workers, should be covered by Employees' State Insurance (ESI); however, many do not possess the required cards to access healthcare. "It should not even come to using the insurance. They must be provided all the safety equipments required," she stressed.

Demand for safety equipment and new uniforms has been long-standing from the pourakarmika community. The association's president, Nirmala, has said that the ground reality of working conditions for civic workers is very grim. They are required to work without adequate safety equipment, while the uniforms provided to them have worn out a while ago. She has accused the government of sidelining the requirements of civic workers despite them being the backbone of the city's hygiene condition. The city has over 18,500 pourakarmikas.

Soumya, a pourakarmika who works in Attiguppe, said they do not have the option of taking leave as it would amount to a loss of pay.

A 2019 Tata Institute of Social Sciences study among 100 waste workers in two BBMP wards highlighted the dire health situation. It showed that 46% of workers suffered from chronic diseases such as hypertension, arthritis, asthma, diabetes, and anaemia. Meanwhile, 88% of workers experienced recurring health problems, including musculoskeletal issues, headaches, eye irritation, and breathing difficulties. One-third of the workers reported work-related injuries. Moreover, three-quarters of the workers refrained from taking sick leave because they feared losing their income.

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Flyover fiasco
Koramangala

Construction work on the Koramangala flyover has reached a standstill, resulting in debris littering 100 Feet Road. This is causing inconvenience for the community.

Cracked concern
Bannerghatta Road

The damaged footpath at Himagiri Junction on Bannerghatta Road has transformed into a dangerous zone for pedestrians and two-wheelers. The situation is particularly hazardous near Carmel Academy.

Branching danger
RV Road

The BESCOM panel board tied with cable wire to a tree branch on the RV road is a potential danger. This makeshift solution is precarious, especially for school children who are often pedestrians in the area.

From fast to furious

Challenges at Bengaluru's Electronic City toll plaza cause distress among commuters

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Staff shortage and slow toll tech causing lengthy traffic, distressing commuters with prolonged delays

Commuters travelling through Bengaluru's technological hub, Electronic City, are facing significant challenges at the toll plaza. Lengthy traffic snarls caused by a staff shortage and slow toll collection technology are leading to distress among many who rely on this route.

Despite the initial intention of making FASTag mandatory at toll gates to streamline traffic flow and optimise speed, the Electronic City plaza is experiencing the opposite effect. Motorists are frustrated, especially considering the toll plaza underwent recent renovations to enhance technology for faster scanning of FASTags, allowing vehicles to pass through without queuing. However, this effort seems to have exacerbated congestion at the plaza.

"The toll gate has been witnessing long vehicle queues for nearly a month during peak traffic hours. I cross the booth around 9 am every day and have been stuck for more than ten minutes on multiple occasions. The toll plaza has become very chaotic," said Parthiban Sivaprakasam, a commuter.

Regular commuters say while the toll gate was recently renovated with new technology to ensure that FASTag posted on the windshield of the vehicles are scanned faster, and vehicles can go past without lining in a queue, congestion at the plaza has only become worse.

"The toll gate was upgraded only a year ago. They demolished a good part of the structure and rebuilt it. The idea was to ensure that the electronic payment gateway works swiftly. However, the situation has deteriorated. No vehicle can go through without waiting for at least 15 seconds, even on days when there are no queues. There have been occasions when we have waited for over ten minutes at the gate. It is like a mayhem," said Basvaraj Araballi, an IT professional.

Commuters allege that the toll plaza is operating with minimal staff. They say while there are three booths at entry points, only one person is manning all three. Moreover, if a vehicle's FASTag is not working, the same person must scan the vehicle manually, leading to serpentine queues.

Motorists say there is a need for vastly improved scanners to read the FASTags clearly and swiftly. If this is not done, much of the time and effort invested in FASTags will be wasted.

"The gate is heavily understaffed, at least during morning hours. Not only the FASTag detector is ineffective, but one person is operating the three entry booths to Electronic City Phase 1. Queues are getting longer daily as more people have rejoined offices. The toll gate needs better technology and manpower to ensure a smooth traffic flow. It has been nearly four years since FASTag technology was implemented at this toll gate, but it still appears to be in its infancy," said Sasmita Priyadarshini, another commuter.

According to city-based mobility experts, the state government should explore new technologies to replace toll gates.

"There is no need for toll booths or queues. Open road tolling (ORT), or all-electronic tolling, cashless tolling, or free-flow tolling is the collection of tolls on toll roads without toll booths. These technologies can reduce traffic congestion at toll gates as vehicles need not stop. It will also aid the government in deducing congestion charges without human interaction. Sensors can be installed all across the city and at tolling points on highways. It will not only substantially improve revenues for the government but will also discourage the use of private vehicles," said Sandeep Anirudhan, convenor of Namma Whitefield and a public transport proponent.

> **"The toll gate has been witnessing long vehicle queues for nearly a month during peak hours. The toll plaza has become chaotic**
>
> – Parthiban Sivaprakasam, a commuter

Firecracker tragedy: Death toll hits 17

With another victim succumbing to his burn injuries, the death toll in the tragic firecracker incident in Attibele on the outskirts of Bengaluru increased to 17 on Wednesday.

The latest victim, Rajesh, a 19-year-old labourer from Tamil Nadu, passed away in the morning at the Saint John's Hospital.

He was one of the three persons to be admitted to the hospital. Two of them had died earlier.

Meanwhile, the state government has handed over the investigation of the case for magisterial inquiry. Amalan Aditya Biswas, the Regional Commissioner of the Bengaluru division appointed as the investigating officer, has been asked to submit the probe report in three months.

The Karnataka Police have also submitted its report on the tragedy to the state government. The case was registered under IPC Sections 285, 286, 337, 427 and 304 with the Attibele police station. —IANS

NICE Road's danger zone fixed

The traffic police have successfully addressed a notorious black spot on NICE Road near the Puravankara Bridge. This 1.5 km stretch was elevated and posed a significant hazard due to sudden slopes, leading to numerous accidents.

According to the data by traffic police, in the past three years, 12 people have died on the stretch. The data shows that from 2020 to 2022, 9 accidents occurred on that road.

Due to several accidents, the traffic police decided to find the scientific reasons for the accident and fix the road in this regard.

The road has been raised by 4 metres, fixed to make it look straight, and CCTV cameras, speedometers, solar lights and traffic signs have been installed to make people obey the traffic rules. —BMB

Stalled in mid-air: KR Puram FOB on hold

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The 119-metre KR Puram FOB constructionhas come to a halt

Construction work on the 119-metre KR Puram footover bridge (FOB) that aims to connect with the KR Puram metro and railway station has come to a halt, awaiting the connection of the landing part of the FOB. The delay is expected to persist until the concourse level of the metro station is finalised.

According to the BMRCL officials, the FOB is supposed to connect to the concourse level of the extension level of KR Puram station. The ORR line is also going through the same station. "Just beside the station, the road has been lowered, and that area will be covered with the concourse level of extension of the station of ORR line. The place where the FOB is constructed will connect to the concourse level. There is a delay in the construction of the concourse level, which is why it is held up," said an official.

The concourse level is in the middle of the metro station, where ticket counters and scanners are located.

Pointing out the hurdles of fully completing the work, a BMRCL official said, "As the existing KR Puram station will also serve the ORR line, there are certain issues with the full completion of FOB. Currently, the length of the FOB made is completed. However, if the existing road next to the station is crossed, the ORR station will be interrupted. If the landing is made in between, the people will have to land between the roads, which will be very dangerous. Initially, we thought we would cross the existing road and put the landing on the other side. But if we cross the road with foot over the bridge (FOB), the ongoing work at ORR will be held up. Both sides of the current road are in depression, coming from the ORR side next to the metro station; there is a set of peers that have been constructed; over that, we will put a portal, and then girders will be placed, and the roof will be cast. The same will go further up till the platform level, and the same process continues for the platform level. And if we cross the station, then there is no working space left to construct the extension of ORR station."

The officials added that the only way now is to wait for the concourse level to be completed. "Right now, we have done the construction till the concourse level, but until they complete the concourse level work of the station, the FOB cannot be completed. We did a lot of brainstorming to develop alternatives, but now, this is the only way to wait for the concourse level. Once completed, it will land at the concourse level of the KR Puram station in the unpaid area. Those pedestrians not availing metro can take the stairs of the escalator." From the KR Puram railway station, the landing work is in progress, and that place will be blocked so that people do not use the stairs. On the other side, the FOB will join the concourse level only when the work is completed.

> **"As KR Puram station will also serve the ORR line, there are certain issues with the full completion of FOB**
>
> –a BMRCL official

BM NAVARANG 2023

Navarang with Bangalore Mirror

The Navarang festivities are taking on a vibrant twist, and today's colour, blue, has added a charming hue to the celebration. Throughout the day, individuals adorned in various shades of blue could be spotted, embracing the theme with enthusiasm. The streets were alive with a sea of blue dresses, capturing the spirit of the occasion. Adding to the excitement, even the family of a popular film star participated in the celebrations, contributing to the BM Navarang festival. Photos poured in from all corners, showcasing the diversity and creativity in dressing up in shades of blue. It's heartening to see how the community comes together to infuse these festivities with such colourful joy.

Submit your group photos/selfies, along with names, addresses, and mobile numbers, to our WhatsApp line before 3 pm daily.

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Today's colour: SAFFRON

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Actor Sreelalitha and family

Jayanthi & friends – Malleswaram

Ujwala Venkatesh from Springboard International Preschool, Padmanabhanagar

Jnanavahini Public School, Nandini Layout

Swaramadurya music programme, Vasavi Temple VV Puram

Mrs Manjula Parimalan, Magadi Road

Peacocks of Oxford school

Sheela, Archana, Lakshmi, Jothi, Savitha, Rekha

Staff of Karnataka State Legal Services Authority Nyaya Degula, H Siddayya Road

Indian Institute of Management staffers, IIM-B

Akshaya Bhajana Mandali, Bagalagunte

Radha and friends, Moodalapalya

Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College

Faculty and staff of IIIT-Bangalore

Metro places axe over heads of 60 more trees

BBMP must not accept such proposals, say citizens; objections to be filed in 10 days

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Activists are outraged over BMRCL's proposal to cut 60 trees to build footpaths, ramps and social spaces around the Ragigudda metro station. Previously, a DULT-BMRCL collaboration was announced to make the station more disabled-friendly.

The BBMP's forest department issued a public notice stating that BMRCL has submitted an application for the removal of trees in the path of the architectural and finishing works and public health engineering works near Ragigudda metro station for Reach 5 in collaboration with DULT.

The 60 trees are located on the right-hand side of the BTM Layout Main Road. Metro has said in its application that 60 trees are obstructing the project and so they have to be removed.

The project has been carried out in Challaghatta station in Reach-2 extension, Madavara (BIEC) station in reach-3C and 5 stations at Central Silk Board, BTM Layout, Jayadeva Hospital, Ragigudda & RV Road 1060 in Reach-5 (P3) of the metro rail project, Phase-2. BMRCL is building footpaths, ramps and social spaces as part of the project.

Along with the letter, BMRCL has submitted the type of trees and their location. BBMP's forest department has invited public objection within 10 days.

Activists say that many trees were removed for the construction of the Ragigudda metro station, and such removals should be avoided. "How can the BBMP accept such proposals? The stretch has vastly been concretised and they plan to remove more trees. Metro work is crucial and several trees have been removed for it. These additional projects should not involve tree removal. They should understand that public spaces are with trees. We will be opposing this move by Metro," said tree activist Vijay Nishanth.

For the construction of the metro corridor between RV Road to Electronic City, 150 trees were translocated in a one-of-a-kind initiative in 2017. Previously, BMRCL had announced a proposal to turn Ragigudda Metro station into a disabled-friendly one at the request of DULT. Ragigudda forms the start of the double-decker flyover from Ragigudda metro station in Jayanagar to Silk Board under the Yellow line. BMRCL has estimated that work will cost them Rs 146 crore. The work is estimated to be completed by the year-end.

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RTI: Physical filing prohibitive on applicants

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

play a pivotal role in the proper implementation of the RTI Act but most of the State Information Commissions are located in the capital cities of the States and conduct proceedings physically.

He pointed out that conducting proceedings physically imposes prohibitive costs on applicants and appellants, especially those living in the remote areas, as they have to travel long distances to approach the Commissions.

"Such bottlenecks in the functioning of State Information Commissions deprive applicants and appellants from effectively exercising their right to information," he stated in the petition.

The Supreme Court, hearing the petition, observed that access to the Information Commissions is integral to securing the right to information, which is a necessary concomitant of right to equality under Article 14, the freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, and the right to life under Article 21.

"There can be no gainsaying the fact that e-filling provides round the clock access to courts, and the process facilitates the convenience of lawyers and litigants. We direct that all State Information Commissions must ensure that e-filing of complaints and appeals is provided in a streamlined manner to every litigant. Steps should also be taken having regard to the provisions of Section 26 of the RTI Act to ensure that services are effected on the Public Information Officers through the electronic mode. This shall also be implemented by 31 December 2023," the Supreme Court said.

Shankar KM, from Karadakere of Maddur Taluk in Mandya District, said that e-filing of complaints and appeals will be of great help for people from rural areas

Furthermore, the Supreme Court directed the secretary, Department of Personnel and Training to convene a meeting of all the Central and State Information Commissioners within a month for implementation of the directions given by the apex court.

Meanwhile, RTI activists from Karnataka have welcomed the Supreme Court's direction to all State Information Commissions to facilitate e-filing of complaints and appeals.

"I welcome the Supreme Court's directive. It is a good direction and it will help both – applicants and staff working at State Information Commissions. All these years, the applicants have to visit the State Information Office to file the appeal physically," said Veeresh BH of Mahiti Hakku Adhyayana Kendra.

Welcoming the Supreme Court's direction on facilitating e-filing of appeals and complaints, Shankar KM from Karadakere of Maddur Taluk in Mandya District, said that e-filing of complaints and appeals will be of great help for people from rural areas.

State Asian Games medalists felicitated with cash award

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said sportspersons in the state are currently being provided 3 per cent reservation in police and forest departments, and efforts will be made to give 2 per cent reservation in other government departments as well.

He was speaking at the Home Office Krishna after felicitating with cash awards the athletes and coaches who won medals in the recently held 19th Asian Games in China.

The Chief Minister said that sportspersons have brought honor to the country and the state. "It is a matter of pride for all Kannadigas. Indian athletes have won the maximum number of medals in the Asian Games in China this time," he said.

He also appreciated that 70 medals were won last time which have gone up to 107 this year.

The Chief Minister opined that India ranks first in population in the entire world. This honor will increase if we get first or second position in the Asian Games as well.

The state government, he said, is committed to promoting sports. When he was the Chief Minister in his previous tenure, prize money was announced to the winners in the Asian Games and Olympics.

He explained that Karnataka is the first state to announce the highest prize amount.

The CM congratulated the sportsmen on behalf of the government and seven crore Kannadigas.

"This time eight people from the state have won medals. Winning a medal at the international level is no small feat. It requires a lot of effort. You have done an amazing job." He also wished them good luck to try hard and win medals in the Olympics as well. **IANS**

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personal

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I Jyothi Mary D/O, Mariyappa R/o Gokunte Mulbagal Taluk Kolar Karnataka 563131 have changed my name to R Jyothi Mary .

I, Riddhi D/o Umesh Janardhan Acharya R/o 4-4-E2 Flat No-503 Comfort Towers Udupi Post-Udupi-576101 have changed my name to Riddhi Acharya for all purposes.

I, Zareen Taj Jalal Akber W/o Jalal Akber R/o #3 , 1st Floor , F Street ,behind Medical College kalasipalyam B'lore-560002 have changed my name to zareen Taj .

I, Revanna R/o 189, Kanakapura main road, Thalagattapura Bengaluru 560062 have changed my name to Revanna Venkataramanappa affidavit Dt.18/10/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Zubaida Khatoon Sardar D/o Sardar Hussain Saheb R/o No.5, 2nd flr, 1st cross, 2nd main, Vivekananda colony, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to Zubaida Khatoon affidavit Dt.18/10/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Vaseem Habib Hagalwadi R/o H NO 673 Post Valki, Tq Honnavar Uttar Kannada Dist have changed my minor son's name from Muhammed to Muhammed Vaseem Hagalwadi

I, MANJULA. W/o, RAJKUMAR A, aged about 28 Residing at No 509, 75th Cross, 10th F Main, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore -560010. Here by I declare that my names MANJULA. And MARGALINGAM MANJULA both name belongs to same person that my name only. Vide affidavit dt : 17.10.2023. Sworn before notary : G Dayanand.

I, with my old names Lloyd Rosario @ Lloyd Anderson Rozario @ Lloyd Rozario S/o Rozario Prosper Rozario R/o No.35, 10th main road, Akkiyappa Garden, MK Nagara, Bengaluru 560022 have changed my name to Lloyd Rozario affidavit Dt.18/10/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, NITIN BHARATRAO GORDE, Residing at No. 3142, Sobha Palm Court, Kogilu Main Road, Near Kogilu Cross, Maruthinagar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064, have changed my minor son's name from VIREN to VIREN NITIN GORDE, vide affidavit dtd: 18.10.2023 before notary R.VISHWANATH, Bengaluru

I, Priya Patted R/o Flat.A1-014, 1st floor, A1 block, DLF westend heights, Akashayanagar, Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to PRISHA MUTTAPPA PATTED affidavit Dt.18/10/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

Change of Name

I M.G.Pushpavathi D/o late M.K.Gopalagowda, W/o G.V.Arun Kumar R/at No.56, Gerehalli Village, Chikkabalapura Taluk and District, stating that my name and my father name mentioned as Puspavathi G. and Gopalagowda in SSLC marks card and Transfer Certificate. But my and my father's correct names are M.G.Pushpavathi and M.K.Gopalagowda and I have declared in the court that henceforth I will use the same name (M.G.Pushpavathi and M.K.Gopalagowda). accordingly the II Additional Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli ordered on 09.10.2023.

I, Inder Chand Udey Chand S/o Udaychand R/o No-18, 5th Cross, Kempamma Layout B G Road , Hulimavu B'lore-560076 have changed my name to Inder Chand for all purposes.

I, Syed Jalauddin AkbAR S/o Syed Khader Basha R/o #3 , 1st Floor , F Street , behind Medical College kalasipalyam B'lore-560002 have changed my name to Syed Jalaluddin Akbar

I, Vaseem Habib Hagalwadi R/o H NO 673 Post Valki, Tq Honnavar Uttar Kannada Dist have changed my minor daughter's name from Alhaan to Alhaan Vaseem Hagalwadi

I, Mohanamba W/o Srinivas Reddy K R/o No-20, Kachamaranahalli Gunjur B'lore-560087 have changed my name to Mohanamba Srinivas Reddy for all purposes.

I, Vaseem Habib Hagalwadi R/o H NO 673 Post Valki, Tq Honnavar Uttar Kannada Dist have changed my minor daughter's name from Hamnah Hagalwadi to Hamnah Vaseem Hagalwadi

I Eswar Bhimji Patel S/O, Bhimji Velji Patel R/o # 24 & 25, Hansa Nivas, Kogilu Road, Supreme Layout, Maruthinagar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064. have changed my name to Eshwar Bhimji Patel.

I K. Vinodh S/O, S. Krishnamurthy R/o 9, Muniswamiappa Layout, Old Madras Road, Swami Vivekananda Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore have changed my name to Vinodh Krishnamurthy.

Change of Name

I Manasa R. Reddy D/o A.Ramamurthy R/at No.35, Anjanadri Nivasa, Opp. Pillakkamma Temple, Maragondanahalli, Bengaluru-560 036, stating that my name mentioned as Manasa R. Reddy in Aadhaar Card and Pan Card. But my name mentioned as Manasa Ramamurthy in Indian Passport which is incorrect. After marriage I have changed my name as Manasa R. Reddy. So hereinafter I will use my name as Manasa R. Reddy only. Therefore, I have filed an affidavit before Notary and Lawyer A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore on 18.10.2023.

We need to perform to our potential and India is probably the (most) in-form team this World Cup
—Chandika Hathurusingha, Bangladesh coach

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Grand venue, for a grand marquee clash

KAUSHIK JN

Excitement palpable near Chinnaswamy Stadium as KSCA ensures prep for World Cup match is A-One

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The buzz is big. And cricket buffs of Bengaluru are ready for the first World Cup game in the Garden City on Friday. The big game featuring the two top teams in the competition, Australia and Pakistan, has generated maximum interest among the fans and the Karnataka State Cricket Association that is playing host to this marquee clash are hoping that it will be a full house on Friday.

The Pakistan team who flew down straight to Bengaluru after the big loss against India at Ahmedabad trained hard under lights, understanding that they need to bounce back soon, while the Aussies who lost their two opening games before they posted the first two points, beating Sri Lanka, are looking to add another victory to their tally.

KSCA president Raghuram Bhat said that the response to the big clash has been good. "More than 70 percent of the tickets have been picked up from ICC's ticketing partner for the event, BookMyShow. The management committee of the club decided to sell 3,000 tickets, leftover from the 6,000 earmarked for members in addition to the KSCA quota," said Bhat.

The cost of tickets ranges from Rs 1,000 to Rs 25,000 and that includes 28% GST. Around 60% of the tickets are priced below Rs 1,000, 20% in the above Rs 1,000 to Rs 9,000 category and the other 20% is sold at above Rs 9,000 to 25,000," said managing committee member MS Keshava.

Keshava said that enquiries for India's clash against the Netherlands is high. Though it is the final league clash scheduled to be held on November 12 at the Chinnaswamy stadium, it will go housefull. "It is the only India game in the city and fans will line up for the final action before the semis," said Keshava.

Keshava said KSCA have allotted a separate stand for the Australian fans. "Following a request by Aussie fans, the BCCI asked KSCA to provide a separate stand and we readily honoured the request," said Keshava.

Satisfied with all the arrangements, Bhat pointed out that a new roof is up on the Western stand and KSCA has roped in famed eatery Udupi Krishna Bhavan and IDC to put up food stalls at all the stands. "The idea is to make it easy and affordable and an enjoyable experience for the people watching the game," said Bhat.

Brand new and swanky

Another initiative that the managing committee proudly showed was the swanky media lounge built in 40 days. A couple of foreign journalists covering the game made it clear that the media lounge is the best in India and on par with the international standard. "It is very cool and top class," said an Australian journalist reporting on the game.

The roofing and media lounge apart, KSCA has done well to renovate all the rest rooms in most stands. "The onus was on KSCA to keep it neat and clean and also raise the hygiene bar and we completed this job on war footing," revealed a committee member. "KSCA loves to facilitate all our patrons. We understand we must cater to all requirements of the spectators and we provided meals to hundreds of spectators who had turned up to watch a Ranji Trophy game last season and we will continue to do this," said Bhat adding that the committee is drawing up many plans to increase the spectator attendance at the domestic games.

World Cup special Metro rides

In view of the World Cup matches in the city for five days, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) will be issuing return journey paper tickets that would be made available for sale at all the Metro stations on the days from 7 am onwards. These paper tickets are valid for a single journey, originating at Cubbon Park or MG Road Metro station to any other Metro station only, on the same day of issue from 4 pm onwards. Besides the paper ticket of Rs 50, the QR code tickets at normal rates with a discount of 5% purchased on the day of the match will be valid for the whole day. One can buy QR tickets on Whatsapp/ Namma Metro App/ Pay TM before the start of the cricket match. -BMB

Kohli is biggest impact player on the field

India's impeccable start in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup has been recognised, and at the forefront is the seasoned icon Virat Kohli, emerging as the player with the most substantial influence on the field in the tournament's first 13 days.

Kohli has a total of three catches through three matches for India - two less than tournament leaders for non-wicket-keepers Matt Henry of New Zealand and Australia veteran David Warner - but his impact out on the field reaches much further than that, ICC reports.

The India dynamo is high on the list of runs saved and pressure ratings through three matches for all teams at the event and his total of 22.30 points sees him sit on top overall for fielding impact at the World Cup.

Kohli's closest challengers are a pair of fellow veterans, with former England captain Joe Root (four catches) and Warner (five catches) his closest rivals.

Pakistan, New Zealand, Australia and India each have two players sitting inside a star-studded top 10, while the tournament hosts have another just outside with all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja in 11th. It means India are well out in front of the team ratings, with their 14 catches for the tournament thus far assisted by a total of 10 runs saved, 16 pressure acts and a quartet of good throws.

India have been recorded to have only dropped two catches in the field during the opening three matches, with reigning champions England (one) the only side to have dropped less. The tournament hosts have been awarding a 'Gold Medal' to their best fielder in each match of the tournament so far, with Kohli claiming the award during India's impressive victory over Australia. -IANS

When India-England were involved in a thrilling tie...

Bengaluru is set to host five matches in the 2023 ODI World Cup cricket (50 overs) with the first match at the Chinnaswamy Stadium scheduled for October 20 when Australia clash with Pakistan. England meet Sri Lanka on October 26, New Zealand take on Pakistan on November 4 and Sri Lanka on November 9 and India lock horns with the Netherlands on November 12, 2023.

Bengaluru has hosted World Cup fixtures during the 1996 and 2011 tournaments with some historic moments for the cricket buffs to revel and remember.

In 2011, the KSCA was allotted four matches. England Vs Ireland (March 2), India Vs Ireland (March 6), Australia Vs Kenya (March 13) and Australia Vs Canada (March 16) were the fixtures billed for Bengaluru.

But India's clash against England was to be held at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta but it was shifted to the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

The Cricket Association of Bengal was unable to complete all the renovation work in the stadium in time. Despite repeated change in deadlines, they failed to satisfy the ICC. On January 31, 2011, the ICC decided to play the match in Bengaluru on February 27, 2011.

Thanks to the futuristic thinking of men like Brijesh Patel the then Hon. Secretary and during whose term the venue was upgraded to meet all of ICC requirements, and the ICC approved the venue as it had all necessary facilities like a World class ground, good training facilities etc. Javagal Srinath, who was the secretary in 2011, had only to carry out some cosmetic changes and the venue was ready.

Pakistan's captain Babar Azam during a practice session ahead of the match against Australia, at M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, on Wednesday

So England and it's Balmy Army travelled to Bangalore for the match. And what a match it turned out to be!

India made 338 before being all out in 49.5 overs. Sachin Tendulkar cracked his 47th ODI hundred making 120 gloriously runs in 115 balls with 10 fours and five sixes to treat the packed crowd with exhilarating batting. Gautam Gambhir scored 51 and Yuvraj Singh 58. England skipper and opener Andrew Strauss slammed a superb 158 in 145 balls with 18 fours and one six while Ian Bell made 69. Still India were inching closer to victory but Graeme Swann hit Munaf Patel for a six as England also scored 338 for 8 to force a dramatic tie.

The super over rule was not applied as it was to be resorted to only if the final ended in a tie. Nevertheless, the shift proved to be momentous in more ways than one.

India Vs Pakistan in 1996

Earlier in 1996, India took on Pakistan in the quarter-final of the ODI World Cup on March 9, 1996. It was the first match to be played under floodlights at the venue.

It was Pakistan's legendary cricketer Javed Miandad's fifth and last World Cup as also his last ODI in his national colours. India scored 287 for 8 in 50 overs with Navjot Singh Sidhu clouting the Pak attack to score 93 runs off 115 balls with 11 fours. Pakistan made 248 for 9 in 49 overs. Karnataka's pacer Venkatesh Prasad took 3 for 45 while spinner Anil Kumble took 3 for 38. Another Karnataka pacer Javagal Srinath took 1 for 61 as India won by 39 runs. It was India's first win over Pakistan since the 1992 World Cup and the first on home soil since 1987.

This time around, cricket fans may well have enjoyed another India match but the ICC decides the draw and Rohit Sharma and his men will be in action only once against Netherlands. -SS Shreekumar

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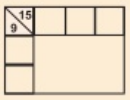
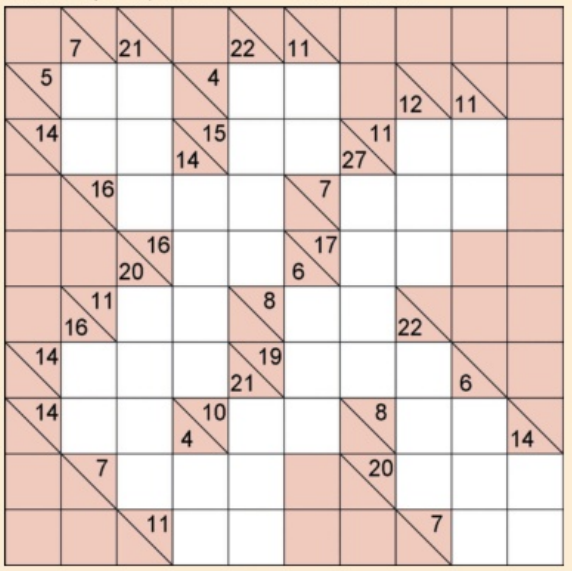
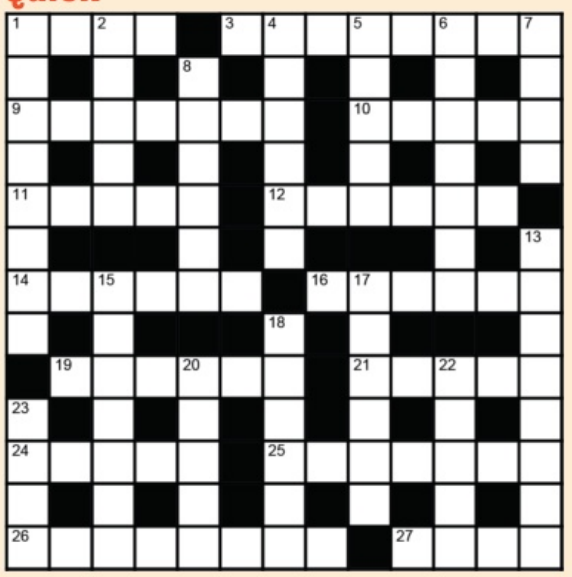


Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Front of the head (4)
3 Extra hours worked (8)
9 Multiplex on Outer Ring Road (7)
10 Of the nose (5)
11 Stratum (5)
12 Relative girls (6)
14 Agreed or equipped ? (6)
16 Absolve, condone (6)
19 To do with the ribs (6)
21 Trunk (5)
24 Prosper, thrive or ascend (5)
25 Russian royal house (7)
26 Betting (8)
27 Writing instruments (4)

DOWN

1 Cosmetic surgery (8)
2 Quite shrewd (5)
4 Female foxes (6)
5 Firing distance (5)
6 In place of (7)
7 Slippery fish (4)
8 Come out (6)
13 Embodies, has or includes (8)
15 Chiselling stone (7)
17 Respiratory disorder (6)
18 A former gold coin of Europe (6)
20 Rome's river (5)
22 Wash out in water (5)
23 Barge-"cows" anagram? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS W

RI XMENL EUK UB RDDYKRMB, EUKB'O ENUJBNKK BNFNKKUL-RDC MBN UDKM?

Linemaro

Your eyebrows really make your eyes standout

Mindchow

Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't

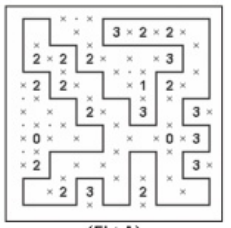
Joke of the day

Progress is made by lazy men looking for an easier way to do things

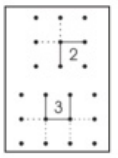
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

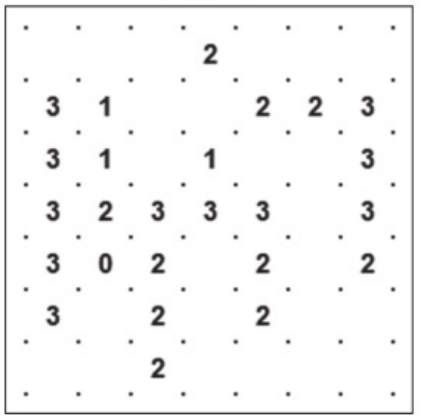


(Fig B) Not Allowed

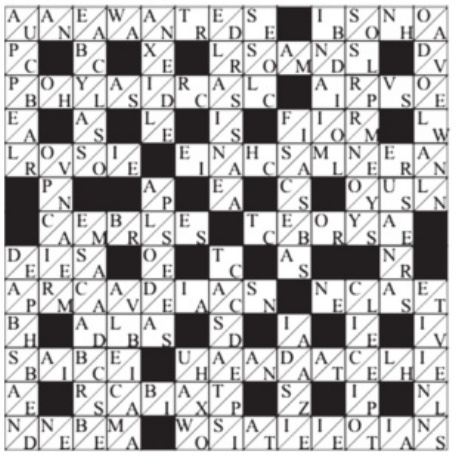
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 O
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Or pap; 6 Rider;
7 Anile; 8 Poets;
9 Smite

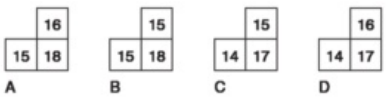
DOWN

1 Tap ad; 2 Pile I;
3 Prims; 4 Enter;
5 Ore so

Mensapuzzle

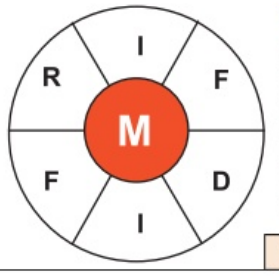
Ho

7	10	13	16
9	12	?	18
11	?	?	20
13	16	19	22



A B C D

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3						4	
7			6		3			5
		2		8		6		
1		9	8		2	3		4
	2						5	
4		5	3		9	7		1
		1		7		8		
2			9		1			7
	9						1	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 29

6 7 7 9

Medium = 4

1 2 5 5

Hard = 61

6 7 8 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

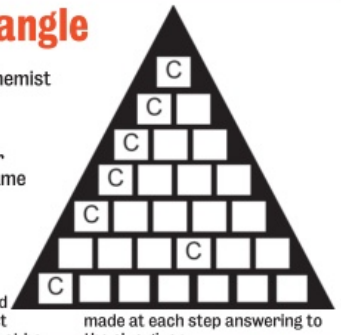
Differences: 1. Hyphen is missing. 2. Hair is different. 3. Railing is missing. 4. Window is wider. 5. Arm is lower. 6. Mouth is different.

Riddler

Starting with AT, add a letter and shuffle to make a new word each time and continue until you reach STAUNCH.

Alpha triangle

1 Vitamin type
2 Copper for the chemist
3 Mongrel
4 Remedy
5 Blaspheme
6 Save from danger
7 Reprimand or blame



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

TOMORROW AT FIRST LIGHT WE ATTACK THE ENEMY!
7-24
WHY DON'T YOU SAY TOMORROW AT DAWN?
BECAUSE, IF A HISTORIAN EVER QUOTES ME, "FIRST LIGHT" SOUNDS MORE ELOQUENT

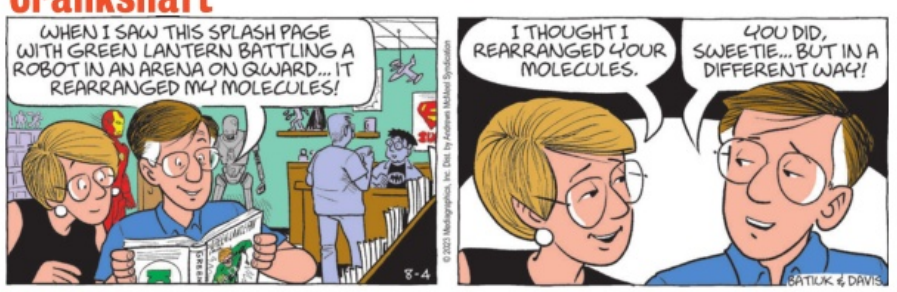
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

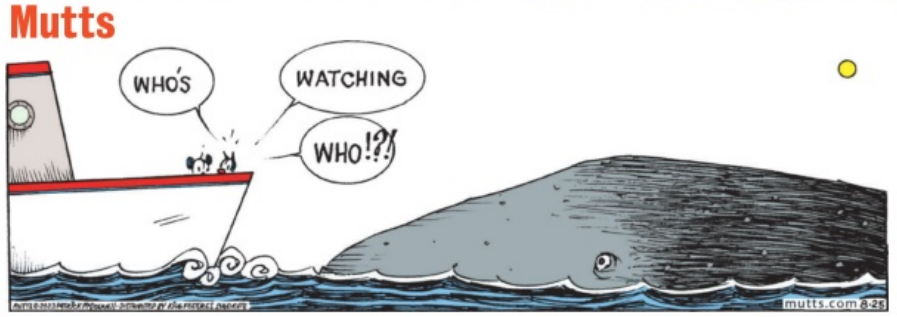
Hart of the city

HEY, CHARLOTTE!
'SUP DEAN?
OH, ME TOO! MY MOM IS A FOUNDING MEMBER.
WELL, YOU PROBABLY HAVEN'T ACTUALLY SEEN A GHOST...
ACTUALLY, I HAVE!
IS THERE ANYTHING YOU DON'T KNOW OR HAVEN'T DONE?
YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU HUNTED GHOSTS. PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU. I HAPPEN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ATLANTIC PARANORMAL SOCIETY.
YEAH, I HAVE YET TO CATCH A GHOST, SO SOME HELP WOULD BE NICE!
8/7
HEART OF THE CITY © 2020 HEATHER MCAFEE
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


WHEN I SAW THIS SPLASH PAGE WITH GREEN LANTERN BATTLING A ROBOT IN AN ARENA ON QWARD... IT REARRANGED MY MOLECULES!
I THOUGHT I REARRANGED YOUR MOLECULES.
YOU DID, SWEETIE... BUT IN A DIFFERENT WAY!
8-4
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy with family matters. You may take on some important tasks on the domestic front. It's advisable to avoid arguments in personal matters, as your arrogance may affect your domestic harmony. By late evening, things may come under control. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in business.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, messy situations are now under control. You may feel at peace in your mind. You may be able to strike a proper balance between expenditure and earnings, which may improve your financial health. It's advised to avoid excessive traveling or overworking, as it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their future. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may face health issues due to sleeplessness last night, making you mentally tired. You may find it difficult to focus on your work for the day and may experience laziness, affecting your commitments. It is advised to avoid rushed driving and adventure tours. Additionally, you should refrain from spending money on worthless items.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be busy with social get-togethers and may meet some old friends. Your network might be strong, giving you benefits in the near future on the work front. Individuals related to export, import, glamour, and artefacts may perform better. Students are likely to excel in their studies today. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may have good support from your family members. There may be an expansion in your family business during these days, elevating the social status of your family. You may also plan to expand your family with a new child, improving bonding between family members. Students may apply for scholarships for higher studies.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be more spiritual, and destiny may favour you, bringing gains from past investments. Your bond with your boss is likely to improve, potentially leading to promotions. You may also receive some good news from your sibling. It's advised to control harsh speech in love and personal life, as it may negatively affect your relationships.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may suffer from sleeplessness, leading to laziness and carelessness, affecting your inner strength negatively. You may feel nervous at work, potentially impacting your ongoing projects. It's advisable to refrain from investing in unproductive ventures and to avoid spicy food, which may affect your digestive system. Additionally, you should avoid rushed driving.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may experience happiness and spread joy around you, leading to harmony in your domestic life. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse. Your family may support you in making important decisions on the professional front. Anticipate new ventures or partnerships in business or work.

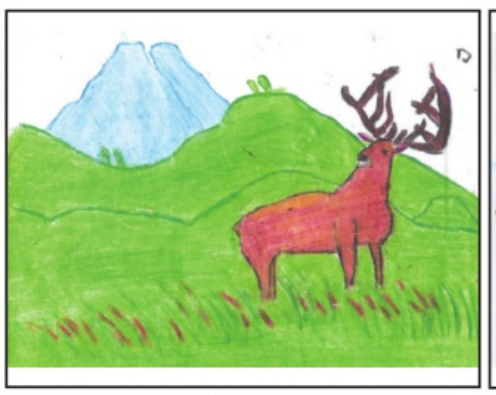
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, the positive moon may bring you happiness and prompt you to use patience in every situation. Your performance at work may be outstanding, possibly resulting in incentives or rewards. Health-related issues of family members will be resolved. Job seekers are likely to find suitable jobs in their domain. Lovebirds may enjoy their dates.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may experience fixed results. It's advised not to expect too much from those around you, as it may lead to disappointment. Engage in self-exploration and self-analysis, allowing you to filter yourself. After this process, you may gain confidence and be ready to accept challenges.

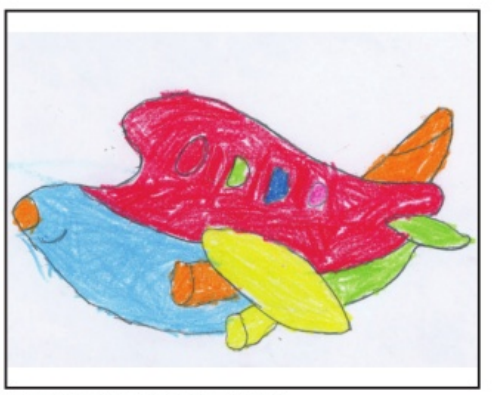
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, dissatisfaction may upset you, making it difficult to enjoy even a single moment. Your lack of patience may affect your work, causing minor mistakes. Consider visiting a religious place to seek peace and practice meditation or yoga for relaxation.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and destiny is likely to be in your favor. You may feel energetic and focused on your work, and your hard work may pay off in terms of success. Your colleagues may be helpful. You are likely to go for a short work-related trip. Expect some good news from your sibling.

KIDZONE



Burhanuddin Rampurawala, 11 years, Candor International School



N Taanvi, 5 years, Purunapramati School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=225(15.2°0i)+2.4/2.3
=225-225(1)+ 52.4/2.3
= 2.(4-3)
= 2.1 = 2

BULL'S EYE
firm, MIDRIFF, miff

QUOTE UNCODE
If power was an illusion, wasn't weakness necessarily one also?

FAST FIVE

A	P	P	R	O
D	I	R	E	R
A	L	I	N	E
P	E	S	T	O
T	I	M	E	S

STRIKE OUT

U	N	A	W	A	R	E	S	I	O	N	A			
P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	I	P	S	O			
E	S	L	I	F	O	R	W							
R	A	B	A	T	Z	I	N							
B	A	B	E	H	E	A	D	A	C	H	E			
B	A	S	D	A	I	V								
A	R	C	A	D	I	A	N	E	L	S	E			
D	I	A	O	C	S	R								
A	M	B	L	E	T	E	R	S	E					
N	P	E	C	Y	U	L								
R	O	S	E	I	N	C	A	M	E	R	A			
E	S	L	I	F	O	R	W							
P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	I	P	S	O			
E	R	A	B	A	T	Z	I	N						
B	A	B	E	H	E	A	D	A	C	H	E			
B	A	S	D	A	I	V								
A	R	C	A	D	I	A	N	E	L	S	E			
D	I	A	O	C	S	R								
A	M	B	L	E	T	E	R	S	E					
N	P	E	C	Y	U	L								
R	O	S	E	I	N	C	A	M	E	R	A			
U	N	A	W	A	R	E	S	I	O	N	A			

QUICK

W	A	G	E	R	I	N	G		P	E	N	S		
O		N		E		I		A		S		E		
C	L	I	M	B		R	O	M	A	N	O	V		
S		L		I		O		H		I		L		
T		O		S		F		S		V				
F	I	L	T	E	D		P	A	R	D	O	N		
I		A		G		S						I		
L	A	V	E	R		N	I	E	C	E	S			
E		N		E		G		T		S				
A		E		I		A		N		E				
C	I	N	E	M	A	X		N	A	S	A	L		
F	A	C	E		O	V	E	R	T	I	M	E		

SUDOKU

8	3	6	7	2	5	1	4	9
7	1	4	6	9	3	2	8	5
9	5	2	1	8	4	6	7	3
1	7	9	8	5	2	3	6	4
6	2	3	4	1	7	9	5	8
4	8	5	3	6	9	7	2	1
3	4	1	5	7	6	8	9	2
2	6	8	9	4	1	5	3	7
5	9	7	2	3	8	4	1	6

MENSA PUZZLE
G: looking across each line add three; looking down each column add two

RIDDLER
One way is: AT, TAN, ANTS, SCANT, CHANTS, STAUNCH.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 6 + 7 + 9 = 29
Medium
2 x 5 - 5 - 1 = 4
Hard
8 x 6 + 6 + 7 = 61

ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, Gu, Gur, Gure, Gurse, Rescue, Censure.

LOOP

KAKURO

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Idris to produce, narrate WW2 documentary

Hollywood star Idris Elba wants to highlight the unsung heroes of World War Two in his National Geographic documentary series. It will cover heroes of colour at Dunkirk, Pearl Harbor and D-Day

A dream come true

Kriti Sanon on Cloud 9 after National Award win

Actor Kriti Sanon is on cloud nine as she received her maiden National Film Award on Tuesday for her performance in the film 'Mimi'.

On Wednesday, during a promotional event for the upcoming action thriller film 'Ganapath: A Hero is Born', Kriti said the award was a dream she though would be fulfilled after long time.

"I'm feeling very good. It was a dream which I thought would be fulfilled after a long time but I never imagined that it would be fulfilled before I could complete 10 years in the film industry," Kriti said.

Kriti received the Best Actor Award from President Droupadi Murmu at a ceremony in Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

She jointly won the Best Actor Award with Alia Bhatt, who won it for her performance in the film 'Gangubai Kathiawadi'.

'Mimi' tells the story of a young woman named Mimi (Kriti) who agrees to become a surrogate mother for a foreign couple, hoping to use the money to fulfil her dream of becoming an actor. However, the biological parents back out when they learn that the child will be born with Down syndrome. Mimi then decides to raise the child on her own and faces several challenges and societal pressures as a single mother. Her struggle to provide for her child despite the odds is both heartwarming and inspiring.

'Ganapath: A Hero is Born', the film is helmed by Vikas Bahl and stars Tiger Shroff, Kriti Sanon and Amitabh Bachchan. —ANI

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

The King Cobra

Rakshith Thirthahalli, who handled the megaphone for Hombanna and Entha Kathe Maraaya, is on cloud nine after completing the shooting and post-production work of his third Kannada film Thimmana Mottegalu that has got a U certificate from the Censor Board.

"We are planning to release the movie shortly. The movie is based on one of the short stories of the novel Kaadina Nentaru written by me. The novel consists of eight short stories. Another movie made based on another short story is Entha Kathe Maraaya," says Rakshith.

Elaborating on the script, Rakshith says it

revolves around the King Cobra and how some people visit the Western Ghats for research on the king of snakes. "The movie shows how people in the Western Ghats adapt themselves with King Cobras," says Rakshith.

Thimmana Mottegalu was shot in and around Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru. "I completed the shoot in 17 days," he says. The movie is bankrolled by NRI Adarsh Iyengar, a well-known musician, who hails from Shivamogga.

Trailer out

A trailer and two songs of movie Satyam Shivam were released by Kannada director-cum-actor Dayal Padmanabhan at a function held at Renukamba Preview Theater on Monday. Journalist-cum-actor Yathiraj has helmed the movie apart from playing a key role in it.

Dayal appreciated the quality of the songs and trailer and praised the director. "Yathiraj is following Tamil movie director K Balachander, who is known for exploiting acting skills based on the body language of the actors. The trailer and two songs of the movie are good," said Dayal.

Yathiraj said movie goers should not think from the title that the film is about two heroes. "It is about how a person becomes cool and calm when he or she sheds negativity. This movie has elements such as suspense, sentiment, and comedy, to entertain the audiences. Producer Bullet Raju plays the lead in the movie. The movie has come out well. I thank all the actors and technicians for their cooperation," said Yathiraj.

Bullet Raju appreciated Yathiraj for completing the shoot of the movie in a single schedule.

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